

UNCHANCEABLE.

"The own mind only" never words more dear  
With sweater sound fall on the listening ear;  
Scripted song by angels breathed above.  
Not such music as these words, "My love?"  
What care I for the world's applause or blame?  
For weak heart there is no room to spare;  
Within my heart there is no room to spare—  
Only one name was ever written there.  
Mortal men may part us, oceans roll between  
Our hearts, bright eyes allure us, yet I ween  
Each heart would yearn its mated heart to meet;  
Searing even death its other soul to greet!  
Never, never could I never half alone  
Life without thee, oh, my loved, my own!  
—Lila S. Cushman in New York Mercury.

THE PICTURE IN YOUR HAT.

A Hatter's Printer Tells Where and How It Is Made.

Do you know how that pretty design is printed on the lining of your hat? Not I will tell you. I am a hatter's printer, and my business is to furnish designs for trademarks or ornamentation, and print them in gold or silver on the silk linings of hats. The batters send the material here and we return it marked with their special designs. I keep several artists at work all the time originating new designs. They are first drawn in pencil on the ink, and then engraved on a heavy brass plate. We use brass because that will stand the necessary heating. We prepare the silk by a process that makes it capable of receiving the impression. The plate is heated, a sheet of gold leaf is placed on it and a press transfers the gold to the silk. The loose leaf is brushed off and the design remains in gold.

"Every hatter has two or three dozen styles, and they change constantly, so that we always have to produce something new. Only a few hatters are satisfied with trademarks. Most of them ask for attractive pictures that will help sell the hats. You would be astonished to know the number of English and even French designs that I get up in American hats."

"But aren't the hats imported?"

"Certainly not. There is a heavy duty on hats. The London hats are made in Newark, and I make the trademarks, rampant lions and all, right here. They don't take in the cost, however. We get up steel engravings on all sorts of subjects to go out there. The subjects want actresses' pictures, and loud subjects to go in the crowns of their sombreros, and illuminated gold serpents on the towels outside. We make hieroglyphics for the Chinese of California and cotton scenes for the darkies down south. There is always a demand for timely designs, and our albums are a history of the day. Every prominent man, every new actress and every important event goes into hat linings. When there is nothing new to depict our artists use their imagination. As an instance of this, here is a prophetic design. It was executed twenty years ago, and it illustrates a blackman dragging a man upon the platform of a train in motion. It is lettered 'rapid transit,' and looks like a scene on the elevated railroad." —New York Mail and Express.

The Dismal Swamp of Virginia.

A correspondent has recently stated that the Dismal Swamp of Virginia is no longer dismal, cranberry patches and clover fields mark the place of the once muddy ground, and the merry whistle of the farmer's boy as he wades knee deep in the hay. Your correspondent is greatly mistaken, and I am sure he would not like to be following that farmer boy through the swamp. If he did attempt to pass through any portion of it he would probably be equipped with a pair of rubber boots reaching to his waist and a full stock of pet names to throw at the snakes that he would run against and the vines that would trip him, and not with that merry whistle. Dodging green, slimy pools that would let him down into mother earth deeper and quicker than quicksand, making about half a mile an hour, not including the stops for refreshments.

The farmer's boy never goes in the "dismal" except to look for a stray horse or cow, or probably on a hunt for coons or possums, and then he is very particular to keep on the edges. Parties are often made up to hunt the bears, of which the swamp is full, and they sometimes pitch into the heart of the swamp to camp, and camp on the high grounds. These high grounds are beautiful little places. They are fully two feet higher than the swamp proper, and while all around them is nothing but stunted cypress and sycamore trees, the hunters find here large flourishing oaks and sweet smelling pines, under which to spend the night. They are to me, as the oasis is to the weary desert traveler, it was on these "high grounds" that the escaped slaves spent their days, and were safe from all pursuit from their masters. The bloodhound soon loses the trail among the woods and ditches. The swamp is the same now as it ever was and likely ever will be.—Norfolk (Va.) Cor. Detroit Free Press.

The Ways of Ocean Travelers.

"Poker will always be the great game for ocean travelers," said an officer of one of the large ocean steamers the other day. "Why? Because it's the greatest game for betting. I suppose, that travelers can conveniently take on a voyage, although of course, the steamer are usually well supplied with cards and chips, which they are always ready to loan for a consideration."

From all accounts some big games have been played quite recently, and some curious stories were related by this same officer to a reporter. "Why?" said he, "it was only two weeks ago that I saw a young New Yorker win over £800 from a young English girl inside of four hours. They were only playing a friendly game at that."

"Do passengers drink liquors to any great extent?" was asked. "Well I should think so," responded the officer under his breath. "Because it's the greatest game for betting. I suppose, that travelers can conveniently take on a voyage, although of course, the steamer are usually well supplied with cards and chips, which they are always ready to loan for a consideration."

Americans, however, are not the heaviest drinkers on the sea. Johnny Bull's sons, the officer declared (although he himself was an Englishman), are the great traveling tipplers. "Yes," he concluded, "there's lots of queer doings on a big steamship, yet nobody's the worse, after all, and it's only for a pastime.—New York Star."

The Exercise of Economy.

The sole basis of individual and national property and comfort is labor. All through the process of acquisition and control labor is present, and her companion, economy. Money obtained in any other way than by honest, persevering labor, physical and mental, never satisfies and rarely abides. Beginning early in life with industry and thrift the duty and pleasure of accumulation goes on, and if carefully (securely) invested a provision for the family and old age will surely be accomplished. In the exercise of economy it is only necessary to habituate the mind to one principle: Avoid all unnecessary expenditure. The question should be, Can I do without this or that? Am I really in need of it? Is it essential to my health, comfort or happiness? If not keep the money and let the fancies want go. This is the rule of thrift for the young man claiming the leader of life.—Bunker's Monthly.

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